Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (original) A powder coating composition, comprising

a binder component of either a silicone resin or a mixture of a silicone resin and at least one selected from the group consisting of an epoxy resin, a phenolic resin, an acrylic resin, a polyester resin, and a fluororesin; and

a reinforcing pigment of at least one of a mica and a whisker,

wherein the content of said silicone resin in said binder component is at least 60% by weight.

Claim 2. (original) The powder coating composition according to Claim 1, wherein the content of said binder component in said composition is at most 50% by weight.

Claim 3. (currently amended) The powder coating composition according to Claim 1-or 2, wherein said silicone resin is in a solid state at 50°C, and said silicone resin has a hydroxyl group content of 2 to 7% by weight based on the total weight of said silicone resin.

Claim 4. (currently amended) The powder coating composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 Claim 1, wherein said whisker is a potassium titanate whisker and/or an aluminum borate whisker.

Claim 5. (currently amended) A powder coating material, comprising the powder coating composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 4Claim 1?

Claim 6. (new) The powder coating composition according to Claim 2, wherein said silicone resin is in a solid state at 50°C, and said silicone resin has a hydroxyl group content of 2 to 7% by weight based on the total weight of said silicone resin.

Claim 7. (new) The powder coating composition according to Claim 2, wherein said whisker is a potassium titanate whisker and/or an aluminum borate whisker.

Claim 8. (new) The powder coating composition according to Claim 3, wherein said whisker is a potassium titanate whisker and/or an aluminum borate whisker.

Claim 9. (new) A powder coating material, comprising the powder coating composition according to Claim 2.

Claim 10. (new) A powder coating material, comprising the powder coating composition according to Claim 3.

Claim 11. (new) A powder coating material, comprising the powder coating composition according to Claim 4.

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